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ASTM F770-1993: Standard Practice for Ownership and
Operation of Amusement Rides and Devices
as required by:

State of Pennsylvania, 7 PAC 139.41

State of Michigan, MAC R 408.802 Rule 3

State of Oregon, OAR 918-200-0070

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Standard Practice for Operation Procedures for Amusement Rides and Devices¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation F 770; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reapproval. A superscript epsilon (ε) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

1. Scope

1.1 This practice establishes information for operating procedures of amusement rides and devices.

1.2 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

2. Significance and Use

2.1 The purpose of this practice is to delineate information and to establish procedures for the operation of amusement rides and devices.

3. Manufacturer's Responsibility

3.1 The manufacturer of an amusement ride or device shall provide, with delivery of each ride or device, documented, recommended operating instructions in the English language. These instructions shall include but not be limited to the following:

3.1.1 Description of the ride or device operation including the function and operation of its major components.

3.1.1.1 Description of the motion(s) of the ride or device during operation.

3.1.1.2 Description of the recommended passenger loading procedures during operation, including recommended seating, where applicable.

3.1.2 Recommended safety procedures and instructions, and information about safety equipment pertaining to patrons and ride or device operators and attendants.

3.1.2.1 Maximum total passenger weight and maximum number of passengers by carrier unit or ride total.

3.1.2.2 Description of the passenger restraint system, its recommended use and operation.

3.1.2.3 Ride or device operator and attendant safety check: recommended visual or other inspections to be performed by ride or device operators and attendants prior to and during each ride or device cycle.

3.1.2.4 Instructions to the patron: recommended information that should be made available to each patron of the ride or device.

3.1.2.5 Recommendations for operational restriction relating to environmental conditions such as wind, rain, or temperature fluctuation.

3.1.3 Manufacturer's recommended ride or device operating procedures, including the location of ride or device operators and attendants.

3.1.3.1 Description of the recommended, daily pre-opening inspection to be performed by ride or device operator(s) and attendants that is in addition to previously performed maintenance or other inspections.

3.1.3.2 Description of the recommended ride or device operator(s) and attendants positions and functions.

3.1.3.3 Description of the recommended series of steps, to be followed in a definite order, to complete the operation of the ride or device.

3.1.4 Manufacturer's recommended emergency procedures.

3.1.4.1 Recommended evacuation procedures for the ride or device.

3.1.4.2 Use of emergency power equipment, if provided with the ride or device.

3.1.4.3 Description of any emergency equipment that is provided with the ride or device, and its uses.

3.1.4.4 Description of any emergency procedure made necessary by an interruption of power, and restart procedures.

4. Owner/Operator's Responsibility

4.1 Each owner/operator of an amusement ride or device shall read and become familiar with the contents of the manufacturer's recommended operating instructions and specifications, when received as provided in 3.1. Each owner/operator shall prepare an operating fact sheet. This fact sheet shall be made available to each ride or device operator and attendant of the amusement ride or device. The owner's/operator's fact sheet (on a ride-by-ride basis) shall include but not be limited to:

4.1.1 Specific ride or device operation policies and procedures with pertinent information from the manufacturer's instructions.

4.1.1.1 Description of the ride or device operation.

4.1.1.2 Duties of the specific assigned position of the ride or device operator or attendant.

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4.1.1.3 General safety procedures.

4.1.1.4 Additional recommendations of the owner/operator.

4.1.2 Specific emergency procedures in the event of an abnormal condition or an interruption of service.

4.1.3 The owner/operator shall provide training for each ride or device operator and attendant of an amusement ride or device. This training shall include but not be limited to the following, where applicable:

4.1.3.1 Instruction on ride or device operating procedures.

4.1.3.2 Instructions on specific duties of the assigned position.

4.1.3.3 Instructions on general safety procedures.

4.1.3.4 Instructions on emergency procedures.

4.1.3.5 Demonstration of the physical ride or device operation.

4.1.3.6 Supervised observation of the ride or device operator's physical operation of the ride or device.

4.1.3.7 Additional instructions deemed necessary by the owner/operator.

4.1.4 The ride or device operator of each amusement ride or device shall conduct a daily pre-opening inspection of each ride or device prior to carrying passengers. This inspection shall include but not be limited to the following:

4.1.4.1 Visual check of all passenger-carrying devices, including restraint devices and latches.

4.1.4.2 Visual inspection of entrances, exits, stairways, and ramps.

4.1.4.3 Test of all communications equipment necessary for the operation of the ride or device.

4.1.4.4 Prior to carrying passengers, the ride or device shall be operated for a minimum of one complete operating cycle.

4.2 The owner/operator of an amusement ride or device may deny entry to the ride or device to any person, if in the opinion of the owner/operator the entry may cause above normal exposure to risk of discomfort or injury to the person who desires to enter, or if in the opinion of the owner/operator the entry may jeopardize the safety of other patrons or employees.

4.2.1 Ride or device operators should be given guidelines on the special considerations concerning patron size, and the special considerations applicable to physically disabled and mentally impaired patrons, related to their particular ride or device.

4.3 Signs presented by the owner/operator for instruction to the public shall be prominently placed, bold in design, with wording short, simple, and to the point.

4.3.1 Signs to display operational instructions or requirements, or both, for use of the amusement ride or device may be posted at the waiting/loading area or other appropriate location and may include height requirements and other duties and obligations of the passengers such as but not limited to those listed in Section 5.

4.3.2 Entrances to machinery rooms or restricted areas, or both, should be posted when necessary to warn unauthorized persons not to enter.

5. Patron Responsibility

5.1 There are inherent risks in the participation in or on any amusement ride, device, or attraction. Patrons of an amusement ride, device, or attraction, by participation, accept the risks inherent in such participation of which the ordinary prudent person is or should be aware. Patrons have a duty to exercise good judgment and act in a responsible manner while using the amusement ride, device, or attraction and to obey all oral or written warnings, or both, prior to or during participation, or both.

5.2 Patrons have a duty to not participate in or on any amusement ride, device, or attraction when under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

5.3 Patrons have a duty to properly use all ride or device safety equipment provided.

6. Keywords

6.1 amusement rides and devices; operating procedures

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